

TRIBUTE TO MR. JOE LAMANTIA,
JR.

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 28, 2008

Mr. CUELLAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Joe LaMantia, Jr., on being the recipient of the Golden Eagle Award from the McAllen Hispanic Chamber of Commerce during the 9th Annual Noche de Gala.

Joe has shown exemplary leadership in his civic service to the south Texas community with his extensive involvement in the Lions' Club, American Heart Association, Rio Grande Cancer Treatment Research Foundation, South Texas Communities for Youth Service, and the Special Olympics. Joe is also the founder and chairman of the preeminent South Texas Academic Rising Stars, STARS, organization, which gives opportunities to the youth in south Texas in pursuing their dreams of higher education. He has made their dreams possible, and it is for this reason alone, that he truly deserves the Golden Eagle Award from the McAllen Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. Today, STARS partners with hundreds of local and national businesses, organizations, colleges, and universities to raise over \$12 million in scholarship funds. This is truly a hallmark of Joe's success as a businessman, and as a committed husband to his wife, Derrelene, father to his seven children, and grandfather to his 26 grandchildren. Joe has come a long way from his initial start in farming in Carrizo Springs with produce operations in Chile and Mexico. The Rio Grande Valley became home for his family, and the base of his business, L&F Distributors, which has allowed him to deepen his ties to the south Texas community through his philanthropic work with STARS.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to have had this time to recognize the dedication and commitment of Mr. Joe LaMantia, Jr., and his organization, STARS, to the children in communities all across south Texas. I thank you for this time.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

SPEECH OF

HON. JOE DONNELLY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2008

Mr. DONNELLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join my colleagues in honoring the contributions of Catholic schools as we celebrate Catholic Schools Week.

I want to recognize both the teachers and administrators of Catholic schools across America who devote their lives to providing students with a strong moral and academic foundation.

Catholic institutions prepare 2.3 million young men and women for college and many of these students participate in volunteerism and other programs that help to improve the community.

The benefits of a Catholic education go far beyond the classroom. The moral and intellectual growth fostered in America's Catholic

schools prepare our young men and women with a sense of social responsibility that lasts a lifetime.

I know firsthand the positive value that a Catholic education can have in an individual's development. My wife and I are both products of Catholic schools and we chose to send our two children to Catholic schools based on the significant impact Catholic instruction has had in each of our lives.

It is with great pleasure that I stand before the House of Representatives and the American people today to commend the dedication of Catholic schools to the academic excellence of our young men and women.

RECOGNIZING THE OPENING OF THE OHLONE COLLEGE NEWARK CENTER FOR HEALTH SCIENCES AND TECHNOLOGY

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 28, 2008

Mr. STARK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the opening of the Ohlone College Newark Center for Health Sciences and Technology in Newark, California. The Center will be officially dedicated on January 31, 2008.

Ohlone College is looking to the future with a new green campus that will prepare students for jobs in the burgeoning health, biotech and environmental technology industries.

Ohlone College President Douglas Treadway said the Newark Center, in addition to being the first green college campus in the Nation, will be the first community college campus in California to have a thematic emphasis. The Center will specifically support the growing fields of health care, biotech and environmental technology.

The Ohlone College Newark Center for Health Sciences and Technology was completed in December 2007 and could be certified at the LEED platinum level—the highest U.S. Green Building Council certification for sustainable construction and design.

The 135,000 square-foot campus is constructed on 80 acres on Newark's Cherry Street and will be an addition to the college's main campus in Fremont, California. The Newark Center will serve some 3,500 students attending day and evening courses.

The Newark campus houses 26 miles of underground piping which is part of a geothermal system that will result in a 25 percent improvement in energy performance. There are some 38,000 square feet of solar panels employed at the Newark campus, which provide energy savings the equivalent to taking 1,000 cars off Bay Area freeways every day. The effects of the alternative energy features could reduce the campus' utility bills by as much as \$400,000 to \$500,000 a year.

The building employs three different alternative energy systems, and a long list of other green features, from recycled blue jeans for insulation to sustainable produced furniture.

I join the community in applauding the opening of the Ohlone College Newark Center for Health Sciences and Technology, the first green community college campus in the United States. This leadership and commit-

ment to quality education, energy and the environment, as demonstrated by Ohlone College, is exemplary.

CHARLES "CHUCK" ROBINSON

HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 28, 2008

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Madam Speaker, sail boat racers, mining companies and Henry Kissinger don't have much in common. But they share this: all have relied on the passion and ingenuity of Chuck Robinson.

Chuck has been finding solutions to tough problems for most of his 88 years. He has received more than 30 patents for ideas ranging from better ways to transport iron ore to better ways to build a sailboat. His ideas have made him a leader in business and government. Even his home displays Chuck's brilliance and commitment to his community. His home features the world's largest heating system in a private home. And after all these accomplishments, Chuck has not slowed down.

I rise today to honor Chuck for receiving New Mexico's first Visionary Designer Lifetime Achievement Award. The award recognizes that Chuck has already put in a lifetime's worth of work tackling tough problems, but those who know him recognize that Chuck's work is far from over. I look forward to admiring Chuck's incredible abilities for years to come.

HONORING HRANT DINK

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 28, 2008

Mr. CAPUANO. Madam Speaker, one year after the tragic killing of Hrant Dink, his loss remains acutely felt by many communities throughout the world. To observe this anniversary, I resubmit for the record my statement made at the time of his death, which calls for comity and peace in a time of such sadness.

I supported H. Res. 102 and I condemn in the strongest possible terms the cowardly murder of journalist Hrant Dink in Istanbul on January 19, 2007. I find particularly contemptible the actions of those who seemingly chose a 17-year-old youth—the alleged killer—to commit this appalling crime. This despicable act should not, however, obscure the inspiring solidarity of tens of thousands of secular, Muslim, and Armenian Christian Turks who filed past Mr. Dink's bier and marched in his funeral procession. Western news media have estimated the crowds between 50,000 and 100,000. Important Turkish officials, such as Deputy Prime Minister Mehmet Ali Sahin; Interior Minister Abdulkadir Aksu; the governor of Istanbul, Muammer Guler; the head of the security forces, Celalettin Cerrah; and two generals joined Arman Kirakossian, the deputy Foreign Minister of Armenia, and other Armenian officials at the funeral service.

Everyone in the world who cherishes freedom and brotherhood must take heart when signs proclaiming "We are all Armenians" are carried through the streets of Istanbul. I wish